

fy, with regard to Dr. Edgar or Dr. ...
whom Mr Garrison had quoted, that they are and have
been long the open and prominent friends of every ef-
fort to elevate and benefit the needy and suffering among
men. His remarks were exceedingly pertinent, and
fully vindicated the spirit of philanthropy and reform
on both sides of the Atlantic.

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Mr. Phillips spoke during the remainder of the evening session, principally to the 14th resolution. [This speech was telegraphically reported, and will be given in a future paper. It was a very able and eloquent vindication of the course of the 'Garrisonian abolitionists,' and a masterly exposition of the philosophy of reform.]

FRIDAY.

Met again in the Melodeon, FRANCIS JACKSON in the chair.

SAMUEL MAY, Jr., from the committee on the organization of the annual meeting, reported the following as a committee to nominate officers of the Society for the ensuing year:—

Edmund Quincy, of Dedham; Stephen S. Foster, of Worcester; William Ashby, of Newburyport; Joshua Perry, of Hanson; Ezekiel Thatcher, of Barnstable; William Whiting, of Concord; Eliam J. Kenny, of Salem; Paulina J. Gerry, of Stoneham; E. D. Draper, of Milford; Stillman Smith, of Norton.

Mr. GARRISON, from the Business Committee, reported following resolutions:—

13. Resolved, That in behalf of the millions enslaved on our soil, this Society gratefully acknowledges the aid rendered to their cause by their transatlantic friends, in public meetings assembled, in Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Belfast, and many other places—and by various addresses from large bodies of philanthropic men and women in the old world, appealing to all Christians in the United States, in the name of a common Christianity, to wash their hands of all participation in the awful crime of slaveholding.

20. Resolved, That, as an auxiliary of the American Anti-Slavery Society, this Society gratefully proffers its heartfelt acknowledgments to those philanthropic friends of the slave in England, Scotland and Ireland, whose beautiful and munificent contributions to the late National A. S. Bazaar in Boston added so much to its value, elegance and productiveness—as well as to all those in this country, who co-operated in the same beneficent work for the same glorious end.

21. Resolved, That we hail the appearance of a new periodical in England, entitled 'The Anti-Slavery Advocate'—designed as it is to disseminate accurate intelligence of the workings of the slave system in America, and to lay before the people of that country correct reports of the aims, purposes and labors of the American Anti-Slavery Society; especially in view of the shameful fact, that for the last twelve years, the very existence of that Society has been ignored in the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Reporter*, or, if ever alluded to, then only for the purpose of giving it a deadly sectarian shaft, as unworthy of the confidence and support of a religious people!

22. Resolved, That our acknowledgments and warmest thanks are due to the *Bristol and Clifton Ladies' Anti-Slavery Society* for the thorough and masterly exposure, made in their recent Report, of the narrow policy and sectarian spirit of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society*, as exhibited in the almost total suppression, in their publications, of all information relating to the American Anti-Slavery Society and its operations,—in constant but secret aspersions of the members and friends of that Society, at home and abroad,—and in unrelenting efforts to disparage and injure, in the estimate of the British public, even those fugitive slaves whom necessity and danger have driven to British soil, and who have there dared to express their gratitude and friendship to any of these men and women, connected with the American A. S. Society, who have protected them, and aided them in their perilous flight.

These resolutions were advocated by JAMES LOW, of England, in an earnest speech, highly creditable to the mind and heart of the youthful speaker.

CHARLES C. BURLEIGH showed that, under our present Constitution and form of government, we are inextricably linked to the support of slavery. Mr. Burleigh's argument was very close and able. [It is hoped that he will write it out for publication.]

The following resolutions were reported from the Business Committee, by Mr. GARRISON:

23. Resolved, That, in regard to the Colonization enterprise, we make no issue on any of the following points:—whether Africa ought not to be reclaimed from barbarism and idolatry; nor whether black missionaries are not better adapted to its climate than white ones; nor whether it is wrong to assist voluntary emigration to the shores of that continent; nor whether the slave trade has not been crippled, or driven from their localities by the colonies already established; nor whether the settlement at Liberia has not attained, in the same period, as high a position as did the Plymouth or Jamestown colony; nor whether the color of the free colored people in this land is not one of great hardship, and surrounded by many afflictive circumstances; nor whether, to those who are held in bondage, exile with penitential freedom is not preferable to a life of chattel servitude; but it is, what are the doctrines, designs and measures of the American Colonization Society, and is it worthy of the countenance and support of a civilized and Christian people?

24. Resolved, That we abhor and repudiate the Colonization Society for the following among other reasons:—(1.) Because it sanctions the infernal doctrine, that man can rightfully hold property in his fellow-man. (2.) Because it is managed and controlled by slaveholders, whose aim is to give quietude, security and value to the slave system, by the removal of the free blacks. (3.) Because it declares the leprosy spirit of complexional prejudice is natural, and not to be removed even by the operations of the Holy Ghost upon the heart. (4.) Because it is the bitter, malignant and active enemy of the anti-slavery enterprise. (5.) Because it stimulates and sanctions the enactment of soul-crushing laws and proscriptions edicts against our free colored population, under the pressure of which they find it impossible to stand erect on their native soil, and may therefore be induced to emigrate to Africa. (6.) Because the motives it avows, the sentiments it inculcates, the means it uses, the measures it sanctions, are base, cruel, demagogical—and, (7.) Because, from its institution to the present time, the objects of its professed commendation have unceasingly borne the strongest testimony against it as uncalled for, hateful, persecuting and unnatural.

Mr. GARRISON said, it is not the colored man, so long as he can be held as a slave, however ignorant and degraded he may be, whom the Colonization Society wishes to send away. No! Slaveholders have no difficulty or prejudice on the score of complexion. When their slaves run away, they run after them, and make Fugitive Laws for them. There is no insuperable prejudice of color, under those circumstances, making it necessary to transport the colored man to Africa. It is the educated, gentlemanly and Christian colored man whom this country hates, will not tolerate, and seeks to banish from its soil.

Rev. A. T. FOSS said he had derived from Rev. Mr. Constantine, once a missionary at Liberia, some reliable information concerning that colony, as it was a few years ago. From that information, he found that the colony had knowingly countenanced and aided the African Slave Trade. (Hear.) This was formerly the case; if it is not so now, it is because the anti-slavery spirit in this country has compelled them to be more cautious. If the traffic had ceased, it was not owing to any voluntary movement on the part of the Colonization Society, but to the fact that the exposure of their wickedness compelled them to move.

Mr. GARRISON commented on Edward Everett's recent statement, that neither of the early colonies at Jamestown and Plymouth, at the end of twenty-five years, had attained so strong and favorable a position as Liberia had gained, in an equal time, among the family of nations. What a compliment this, said Mr. G., to the capacity of the colored man! We have been used to regard our ancestors as picked men; but, by Mr. Everett's

showing, it would seem these Liberia colonists are decidedly their superiors.

EDMUND QUINCY, from the Committee on that subject, reported the list of officers of the Society for the current year:—

President, FRANCIS JACKSON, Boston.

Vice Presidents,

ANDREW ROBERTS, New Bedford;

EDMUND QUINCY, Dedham;

STILLMAN SMITH, Cambridge;

ADAM FARNSWORTH, Groton;

ADAM BALLOU, Milford;

JOHN M. FISK, West Brookfield;

JOHN T. EVERETT, Princeton;

EPHRAIM L. CARRON, Worcester;

JEFFERSON CHURCH, Springfield;

OLIVER GARDNER, Nantucket;

HENRY L. BOWDITCH, Boston;

WILLIAM WHITING, Concord;

A. A. BENT, Gardner;

JOSEPH HENSHAW, West Brookfield;

CAROLINE WESTON, Weymouth;

BENJAMIN SNOW, Jr., Fitchburg;

GEORGE MILES, Westminster;

JAMES N. BURNETT, Lynn;

CYRUS PERCIE, Newton;

JOHN T. HILTON, Brighton;

THOMAS T. STONE, Bolton;

BURNETT SPOONER, Plymouth;

WILLIAM ASHBY, Newburyport;

JOHN BAILEY, Lynn;

CHARLES F. HOVEY, Boston;

J. S. STAFFORD, Cambridge;

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, Cambridge;

RICHARD CLAP, Dorchester.

Corresponding Secretary,

EDMUND QUINCY, Dedham.

Recording Secretary,

ROBERT F. WALCOTT, Boston.

Treasurer,

SAMUEL PHILLIPS, Brookline.

Auditor,

EDMUND JACKSON, Boston.

The report was unanimously accepted, and the officers elected accordingly.

SAMUEL MAY, Jr., brought the case of Daniel Kauffman, of Pennsylvania, before the meeting. For allowing some fugitive slaves to pass a night in his barn, and giving them some food, Mr. K. has been fined by the notorious Judge Oler, of the U. S. Supreme Court, and stripped of all his property.

Mr. GARRISON again brought forward the case of Peter Still.

AFTERNOON. FRANCIS JACKSON, the President, in the chair.

THOMAS HASKELL, of Gloucester, made some brief, but excellent remarks.

GEORGE W. PETERS, of Lynn, spoke on the influence of the old organized societies have in keeping alive the anti-slavery movement in the land—a movement without which, the Free Soil party could have had no existence, and 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' would have had only tens of readers, where now it has tens of thousands. Mr. P. advocated the publication of a new series of cheap tracts for gratuitous distribution.

LEWIS FORB, of Abington, spoke with regard to contributions to the Society for its operations during the present year.

DANIEL FOSTER, of Cambridge, continued the subject, and presented many encouraging features of the cause, which had occurred in his experience during the last eight months.

Rev. T. W. HIGGINSON, of Worcester, spoke in favor of the most thorough agitation of the community on the subject of slavery, and according to the principles and methods of this Society,—while he declared himself to be a member of the Free Democratic party. [Mr. H.'s speech was telegraphically reported, and will be published, probably, next week.]

Mr. GARRISON, from the Business Committee, reported the following resolutions:—

25. Resolved, That the recent act of a large majority of the U. S. Senate, proscribing Messrs. Hale, Sumner and Chase from all the Committees in that body, on the ground of their not belonging to any 'healthy political organization,'—meaning, that they are not connected with either the Whig or the Democratic party, and are opposed to 'the compromise measures, including the Fugitive Slave Law,'—is unparalleled for meanness and baseness in the history of political legislation, as gross an insult as was ever offered to honorable men, an act of daring usurpation, and a precedent of a most alarming nature, which, if tamely submitted to, forebodes, with other arbitrary events of the time, the ultimate establishment of a military despotism over the whole country.

26. Resolved, That while the pro-slavery servility of one of the Senators from the Commonwealth made him shrink from registering a manly testimony against this despotism and tyrannous act, in the name of the sovereign State of Massachusetts which he was sent to Congress faithfully to represent, we had a right to expect, from the anti-slavery professions and position of the other Senator, (the Hon. Charles Sumner,) who was one of the proscribed, something more than a dumb and an inglorious silence on that occasion; and yet, no sound was heard from his lips, and Massachusetts was allowed to be spit upon with impunity.

27. Resolved, That the people of this Commonwealth, without distinction of party, have a right to expect, on the part of their Legislature now in session in this city, a prompt and stern protest against the virtual disfranchisement of Massachusetts in the Senate of the United States.

Mr. GARRISON said he had but little to add to the language of the resolutions. It was well known that the announcement had been formally made in the Senate of the United States, that the Free Soil members would hereafter be proscribed from all Committees in that body—though they were necessitated often to place one man on two or three, or even more committees, as the case might be; thus disfranchising, so far as in their power, the Senator from the Granite State, (Mr. Hale,) the Senator from Massachusetts, (Mr. Sumner,) and the Senator from Ohio, (Mr. Chase.) This was done, too, by an overwhelming majority, the reason given being that those gentlemen did not belong to a healthy organization—meaning that they were not connected with either of the two great pro-slavery parties of the land.

solely protested against such a precedent. This intention might yet return to plague the inventors. Now, Whigs and Democrats were one in this proscription; but if it was good in this case, it would be good for whatever party is strongly dominated hereafter, against any other party that may be found in either house of Congress; and therefore it should excite common indignation as well as common alarm. It was by just such steps as these that despotism at last conquered a people.

Step by step, and each step tamely submitted to, until the manhood of the people is gone, and then the usurper has only to spring into the seat of power, and, having his armed myrmidons about him, rule with a rod of iron over the whole country. It might be thought ridiculous by some to express any fear lest this nation, should ultimately fall under the power of a military despotism; and yet, what might not happen to us? With such a system as that of slavery in our midst,—so huge, so volcanic, so destructive in all its elements, so demoralizing, so full of retribution, so heaven-daring,—he believed before God, that if this nation continued in its present course, submitting to one act of oppression after another on the part of the Slave Power, (which tries to exalt itself above all that is called God,) the day was not far distant when even the form of a republican government would go down to the dust, as that of American Napoleon, to rule over us.

We had no manhood, as a people; we were a cowardly race. In one half the country there was no freedom of speech, no right of assembling peaceably together, no freedom of the press—we were all as dead men in the immediate presence of the Slave Power. This was well known, and yet we submitted to it! 'To this complexion has it come at last.'

In this alluding to Mr. Sumner, the speaker disclaimed all personal feelings. Mr. Sumner was his personal friend, and one on whose friendship he wished still to have a strong hold. The necessity of an allusion of this kind was painful to him; but, remembering his anti-slavery professions, and the position which he occupies in the name of the people of Massachusetts, he felt constrained to say, that Mr. Sumner was bound, if on any occasion he could utter a word, to have risen in his place, and borne his protest—not for himself as a man, but in the name of the people of Massachusetts, and the State which he represented. But he was dumb, as the resolution said. He (Mr. G.) had been astonished at the indifference of the Free Soil party in regard to this daring usurpation. If they were not prepared to stand by their Senators, and to vindicate their sovereignty, it was time for somebody else to look after them, and, as Mr. Hale said, 'act as Committee of the Whole.'

In conclusion, Mr. Garrison said that he hoped the Legislature of Massachusetts would take the matter up without delay. It should not be left to a Free Democrat; but yet, if no other party came forward, the Free Democrat who did not test the Legislature on this subject, would be a traitor to his professions, and recreant to the cause of liberty. But there should be Whigs and Democrats in that body to step magnanimously forward, and, overlooking all party distinctions, insist that no such insult shall be cast upon Massachusetts with impunity by any body of usurpers in the Congress of the United States. He hoped to see it done, and to see such a protest as would make that usurping body cower before it.

STEPHEN S. FOSTER opposed the resolutions, so far as relates to censuring Mr. Sumner for his silence on the proscription of the Senate. He would rather censure Mr. S.'s constituents for bearing it so silently and tamely. We do not know all Mr. Sumner's reasons for silence; and, besides, he rather doubted the propriety of Mr. S. making any protest whatever. If he (Mr. S.) could ensure Mr. Sumner at all, it would be for his being a member of the Senate.

Mr. GARRISON rejoined, that if the speech which his friend Mr. Foster had just made was not a severely satirical one—if it were really intended as a grave denunciation of Mr. Sumner's silence—then he must say, that, henceforth, whoever shall represent Stephen S. Foster as having no bowels of mercy, and being utterly destitute of charity, forbearance and long-suffering, will stand a self-convicted calumniator. But he totally differed in this view of the case from his friend, and must reiterate his conviction, that Mr. Sumner ought to have registered a strong and dignified protest against such high-handed Senatorial proscription.

Mr. PILLSBURY differed from S. S. Foster. He thought the apology, which his friend Foster had made for Senator Sumner, was equally good for the clergy of the country, in regard to their silence and apathy in the case of the slave. In my judgment, said Mr. P., Senator Sumner should have called that tyrannous Senate to account for their insult to Massachusetts, and their despicable proscription of himself and other Senators. But, culpable as Mr. S.'s silence may be, much more culpable are his constituents for their quiet submission to the insult heaped upon their Senator and their State.

Mr. INNES said a few words in defence of Mr. Sumner. Adjourned.

EVENING. Mr. GARRISON presented and read the following from Rev. S. S. Griswold, of Greenanville, Ct. To the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, convened in its Annual Meeting:

FRIENDS OF FREEDOM, OF HUMANITY, OF GOD.—Permit me to express my deep sympathy and abiding interest in the great cause of universal philanthropy in which you are engaged, and for which you are now assembled. Eighteen centuries have rolled into the ocean of the past, since that great Herald of 'freedom and justice,' the 'Prince of Peace,' proclaimed on the mountains and plains of Judea, an 'acceptable year of the Lord, a day of salvation from our God.' Ages have passed, and yet the full fruition of that blessed announcement has not been realized. 'Darkness has covered the earth, and gross darkness the people.'

But a better day is dawning; a 'good time is coming'; a glorious era is bursting on our world. The rays of truth have already begun to penetrate, if not to permeate, the murky clouds of ignorance, superstition and oppression. The clarion notes of peace are beginning to swell in choral anthems, while the tocsin of war must long be hushed in silence. And what place so fitting to begin the sacred lays as Boston, whose bells first chimed the songs of Liberty, while its infant charge was cradled in Faneuil's manger!

What though the child of Liberty, like the babe of Bethlehem, has been driven from its native home! Yet, like Jesus, may it not return when Herod is dead, who sought the young child's life, and only an Archelaus reigns in his stead?

May wisdom guide your deliberations, and the God of peace bless your interview! Though absent in body, yet I am present in spirit, and shall esteem it a privilege to be reckoned as one with you in your labors of love.

SHERMAN GRISWOLD. Greenanville, Jan. 24, 1855.

The remainder of the evening session was mainly occupied by Rev. THEODORE PARKER, in a very eloquent speech, which was listened to by the large audience with the closest attention. [This speech also was telegraphically reported, and will be printed.]

WENDELL PHILLIPS made a few impressive closing remarks, chiefly in reply to some observations of Mr. Parker.

The resolutions before the meeting were then adopted by a full and unanimous vote.

The brothers Judson, John and Asa Hutchinson then sang the 'Fugitive's Song.' It was received with great applause.

The Society then adjourned, sine die.

FRANCIS JACKSON, President.

ROBERT F. WALCOTT, Secretary.

SAMUEL MAY, Jr., Assistant Secretary.

A complete list of the pledges, donations and contributions made at the late annual meeting in Boston will be published in the next *Liberator*.

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—In May next, a Convention will assemble to revise the Constitution of the Commonwealth. At such a time it is the right and duty of every one to point out whatever he deems erroneous and imperfect in that instrument, and press its amendment on public attention. We deem the extension to woman of all civil rights, a measure of vital importance to the welfare and progress of the State. On every principle of natural justice, as well as by the nature of our institutions, she is as fully entitled as man to vote, and to be eligible to office. In governments based on force, it might be pretended, with some plausibility, that woman, being supposed physically weaker than man, should be excluded from the State. But ours is a government, professedly resting on the consent of the governed. Woman surely is as competent to give that consent as man.

Our Revolution claimed that taxation and representation should be coextensive. While then the property and labor of women are subject to taxation, she is entitled to a voice in fixing the amount of taxes, and the use of a vote when collected. While she is liable to be punished for crime, she is entitled to a voice in making the laws that regulate punishments.

It would be a disgrace to our Schools and civil institutions for any one to argue that a Massachusetts woman, who has enjoyed the full advantage of all their culture, is not as competent to form an opinion on civil matters, as the illiterate foreigner, landed but a few years before upon our shores,—unable to read or write,—by no means free from early prejudices, and little acquainted with our institutions. Yet such men are allowed to vote.

Woman as wife, mother, daughter, and owner of property, has important rights to be protected. The whole history of legislation, so unequal between the sexes, shows that she cannot safely trust these to the other sex. Neither her rights as mother, wife, daughter, or laborer, have ever received full legislative protection. Besides, our institutions are not based on the idea of one class or sex receiving protection from another; but on the well recognized rule that each class or sex is entitled to such civil rights as will enable it to protect itself.

The exercise of civil rights is one of the best means of education. Interest in great questions, and the discussion of them under momentous responsibility, call forth all the faculties and nerve them to their fullest strength.

The grant of these rights, on the part of society, would greatly lead to the enjoyment by woman of a share in the higher grades of professional employment. Indeed, without these, mere book study is often but a waste of time. The learning for which no use is found or anticipated, is too frequently forgotten almost as soon as acquired.

The influence of such a share on the moral condition of society is still more important. Crowded now into few employments, women starve each other by close competition; and too often vice borrows overwhelming power of temptation from poverty. Open to woman a great variety of employments, and her wages in each will rise; the energy and enterprise of the more highly endowed will find full scope in honest effort, and the faithful vigor of our cities will be stepped at its fountain head.

We hint, very briefly, at these matters. A circular like this will not allow room for more.

Some may think it too soon to expect any action from the Convention. Many facts lead us to think that public opinion is more advanced on this question than is generally supposed. Beside, there can be no time so proper to call public attention to a radical change in our civil polity as now, when the whole framework of our Government is to be subjected to examination and discussion. It is never too early to begin the discussion of any desired change. To urge our claim on the Convention, is to bring the question before the proper tribunal, and secure, at the same time, the immediate attention of the general public.

Massachusetts, though she has led the way in most other reforms, has in this fallen behind her rivals, consenting to learn, as to the protection of the property of married women, of many younger States. Let us redeem her for her old pre-eminence, and urge her to set a noble example in this the most important of all civil reforms. To this end we ask you to join with us in the accompanying petition to the Constitutional Convention.

